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# Home to Russia, without love

# U.S. KISSES OFF

# JILTED RED SPY

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FLIP-flop spy Vitaly Yurchenko re-defected over a shattered love affair with a Soviet woman living in Canada, intelligence sources said yesterday.

The report came amid a flurry of developments in the Yurchenko spy scandal.

● State Dept. officials met with Yurchenko last night and confirmed that he wants to go back to the Soviet Union and is not being coerced.

● Congressional sources revealed that there had been a number of other defections of Soviet spies, details of which are still secret.

● The Senate Intelligence Committee promised to probe the entire Yurchenko affair and asked for an internal CIA investigation as well.

The story of the Spy who went back into the cold after having come from Russia for love was the most colorful of a plethora of theories going around in Washington yesterday.

Intelligence sources in Washington said that Yurchenko had had a love affair with the wife of a senior Russian diplomat living in Canada.

The Soviets have a mission of 280 people in Ottawa and more in a consulate in Montreal and missions and trade delegations in Toronto, Vancouver and Halifax.

Only senior Soviet officials are allowed to take their families abroad.

According to the source, Yurchenko was rebuffed by his lover, who he had hoped to bring to the U.S. to live with him.

"She liked him as a spy, but not as a defector," the source said.

Yurchenko has a wife and a 16-year-old son in the Soviet Union.

It was unclear when Yurchenko pursued his love affair with the Russian woman — in the Soviet Union or in the West.

The report also raised the question of how Yurchenko conferred with the woman over their break-up.

Yurchenko hurried into the State Dept. at 6.10 p.m. last night flanked by five Russian diplomats for a meeting with State Dept. officials.

He emerged 30 minutes later accompanied by the same officials and was whisked back to the Soviet embassy.

"Are you staying or going?" reporters shouted as he left.

"It's obvious," one of the Russians shouted back.

In the back of the embassy car, Yurchenko raised a double fist and waved it in a victory salute.

Later, the State Dept. said the meeting confirmed that Yurchenko was not being coerced and "his decision to return to the Soviet Union was made of his own free will."

"He is now free to leave the U.S.," the State Dept. said.

The Soviets had agreed to the meeting after the State Dept. said Yurchenko would not be allowed to leave the U.S. without some assurance that he had not been coerced into re-defecting.

Yurchenko, identified as the onetime head of the KGB's American section, came to the U.S. in August and was in the custody of CIA officials until last weekend.

He turned up at the Soviet Embassy on Monday and, at an extraordinary news conference, said he had been abducted in Rome, drugged, and pumped for Russian secrets at a CIA hideout in Virginia, but managed to escape.

According to congressional sources, who asked not to be identified, Yurchenko is just one of a number of Soviet spies who have defected in recent months.

The details of the other defections are still being kept secret by the CIA, the sources said.